

Appl. No. 10/631,936
Amdt. Dated 3/8/2006
Reply to the Office Action of 12/08/2005

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing resources within a node, the method comprising:
 - configuring at least one data storage device resource for use by a node, wherein the node is associated with a site containing the data storage device resource;
 - validating availability of the at least one data storage device resource for inclusion in a data storage resource pool, wherein the validating comprises determining accessibility by the node that the node has access to the data storage device and verification that the at least one data storage device resource is located at the site; and
 - selecting, based upon the validating, at least one of the at least one data storage device resource for inclusion in the data storage resource pool.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one data storage device resource comprises at least one disk unit, the method further comprising:
 - configuring the data storage resource pool as a switchable disk pool that is able to be configured to be assigned to one of at least two computing nodes.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the node is a single node located at the site and the node operates as part of a geographically disperse computing system group.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one data storage device resource comprises at least one disk unit, the method further comprising,
 - ranking availability of each disk unit for the data storage resource pool; and
 - selecting at least one valid disk unit for the data storage resource pool according to availability ranking.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising,
 - providing at least one reason to a user to explain validity and ranking of each disk unit.

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6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the node is part of a cluster resource group.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the cluster resource group comprises a primary node and at least one backup node, wherein the primary node and the at least one backup node execute the OS/400 operating system and the data storage resource pool is defined as an independent auxiliary storage pool.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
validating accessibility of data storage devices resources in the data storage resource pool when adding a new node to a cluster resource group recovery domain, wherein the validating comprises
determining that the node is associated with a site containing the data storage resource pool, and
determining that the data storage resource pool is accessible by the new node.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
when adding a switchable data storage resource pool to the cluster resource group, verifying accessibility of each data storage device resource in the switchable data storage resource pool by each node in the cluster resource group recovery domain located at the site.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising:
verifying that a switchable entity containing the switchable data storage resource pool is not included in another cluster resource group.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
validating, when starting clustering, switchability of the switchable data storage resource pool between at least two nodes within the cluster resource group ~~when starting clustering.~~

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12. (Currently Amended) A signal bearing medium, comprising a program which, when executed by a processor, performs operations for managing resources within a node, the operations comprising:

configuring at least one data storage device resource for use by a node, wherein the node is associated with a site containing the data storage device resource;

validating availability of the at least one data storage device resource for inclusion in a data storage resource pool, wherein the validating comprises determining ~~accessibility by the node~~ that the node has access to the data storage device and verification that the at least one data storage device resource is located at the site; and

selecting, based upon the validating, at least one of the at least one data storage device resource for inclusion in the data storage resource pool.

13. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 12, wherein the steps further comprise configuring the data storage resource pool as a switchable disk pool that is able to be configured to be assigned to one of at least two computing nodes.

14. (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 12, wherein the node is a single node located at the site and the node operates as part of a geographically disperse computing system group.

15. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 12, wherein the steps further comprise:

ranking of each resource for the data storage resource pool; and

selecting at least one valid resources for the data storage resource pool according to results of the ranking.

16. (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 15, wherein the steps further comprise: providing at least one reason to a user to explain validity and ranking of each resource.

17. (Original) The signal bearing medium of claim 12, wherein the node is part of a cluster resource group.

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18. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 17, wherein the steps further comprise:

validating accessibility of data storage devices resources in the data storage resource pool when adding a node to the cluster resource group recovery domain, wherein the validating comprises

determining that the node is associated with a site containing the data storage resource pool, and
determining that the data storage resource pool is accessible by the new node.

19. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 17, wherein the steps further comprise verifying accessibility of each data storage device resource in the switchable data storage resource pool by each node in the cluster resource group recovery domain when adding a switchable data storage resource pool to the cluster resource group.

20. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 17, wherein the steps further comprise verifying that a switchable entity containing the switchable data storage resource pool is not included in another cluster resource group.

21. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 17, wherein the steps further comprise validating, when starting clustering, switchability of the switchable data storage resource pool between at least two nodes within the cluster resource group ~~when starting clustering~~.

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22. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a primary node that is associated with a site;
a data storage resource pool connected to the primary node; and
a processor configured to validate availability of at least one disk unit resource for the data storage resource pool and to select at least one valid disk unit resource for the data storage resource pool, wherein the availability is validated based at least in part on the at least one disk unit resource being located at the site.

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22, wherein the processor is further configured to rank each disk unit resource for the data storage resource pool and select at least one valid disk unit resource for the data storage resource pool according to ranking.

24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 23, wherein the processor is further configured to provide at least one reason to a user to explain validity and ranking of each disk unit resource.

25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22, wherein the data storage resource pool is configured as a switchable resource disk pool that is able to be configured to be assigned to one of at least two computing nodes.

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, further comprising at least one backup node connected to the switchable resource pool, wherein the primary node and the at least node backup node execute the OS/400 operating system and the data storage resource pool is defined as an independent auxiliary storage pool.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the processor is further configured to validate accessibility of data storage devices resource in the switchable resource pool when adding a new node to the cluster resource group recovery domain, wherein the validating comprises:

determining that the node is associated with a site containing the data storage resource pool, and

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determining that the data storage resource pool is accessible by the new node.

28. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the processor is further configured to, when adding the switchable ~~disk resource~~ pool to the cluster resource group, verify accessibility of each ~~data storage resource~~ disk unit in the switchable ~~resource~~ disk pool by each node in the cluster resource group recovery domain.

29. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the processor is further configured to verify that a switchable entity containing the switchable ~~resource~~ disk pool is not included in another cluster resource group.

30. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the processor is further configured to validate when starting clustering ~~validating~~ switchability of the switchable disk pool between at least two nodes within the cluster resource group ~~when starting clustering~~.